



State of Louisiana

Department of Health and Hospitals

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS CHARTER OF THE NAEGLERIA FOWLERI SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY WORKING GROUP

Working Group Official Designation:

Naegleria Fowleri Scientific Advisory Working Group

Background:

In August 2013 in light of the death of a 4-year old child in St. Bernard parish diagnosed with Primary Amebic Meningitis (PAM) caused by an infection of Naegleria Fowleri the Department of Health and Hospitals with the assistance of the U.S. Center for Disease Control collected and analyzed samples from the St. Bernard public water supply that revealed the presence of Naegleria Fowleri in the public water distribution system. The child had been playing on a slip and slid all day with a sprinkler on a garden hose connected to the home plumbing system. This public water supply had a previous death due to PAM in 2011 involving the use of a neti pot. The results for this water supply triggered additional sampling and analysis in a Desoto parish water system where a separate PAM death occurred in 2011 also connected to the use of a neti pot in the home. These results revealed the presence of Naegleria Fowleri in the Desoto Water Works District 1 public water system.

Authority:

The State Health Officer of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals approved establishment of the Naegleria Fowleri Scientific Advisory Working Group (NFSAWG) on October 16, 2013.

Purpose:

Collaborate with the Department of Health and Hospitals to consolidate available information, discuss, investigate, research, and/or develop an informational document, standard, or guideline regarding risks associated with Naegleria Fowleri in public water systems and provide for strategies to detect and control the presence and proliferation of Naegleria Fowleri in public water systems.

Some of the questions to answer are as follows:

1. What is the occurrence of Naegleria Fowleri in public water system distribution systems?
2. What is the risk of infection of Naegleria Fowleri when it is present in a public water supply?
3. What treatment, operational, and/or monitoring practices are necessary to control the presence of Naegleria Fowleri in public water systems at a level that will prevent or reduce the risk of infection to an acceptable level?

Description of Duties:

The working group shall function solely as an advisory body.

Leadership:

This working group will utilize a shared leadership format that relies on its members to voluntarily lead aspects of the project on an as needed basis given interest, aptitude, and experience of members. The State Health Officer and/or his designee will serve as a facilitator for this working group.

Membership and Designation:

The NFSAWG will consist of the following members appointed by the State Health Officer:

CDC

Jennifer Rittenhouse Cope, M.D., MPH (CDC/OID/NCEZID)

Medical Epidemiologist
LCDR, US Public Health Service
Waterborne Disease Prevention Branch
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Office: 404-718-4878 | Cell: 404-368-9877
www.cdc.gov/parasites/nacgleria/
bjt9@cdc.gov

Vincent R. Hill, Ph.D., P.E. (CDC/OID/NCEZID)

Team Lead; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Laboratory
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases
Waterborne Disease Prevention Branch
1600 Clifton Road, NE
Mailstop D-66
Atlanta, GA 30329
Phone: 404-718-4151
veh2@cdc.gov

Other CDC individuals to be cc'd:

Michael Beach – mjb3@cdc.gov
Jonathan S Yoder – jev9@cdc.gov
Julia Marie Gargano – igc5@cdc.gov

LSU

W. David Constant, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE

Head, Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering
and Humphreys T. Turner Professor of Civil and Environmental
Engineering
149 E.B. Doran Hall
LSU AgCenter
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
Email: dconstant@agcenter.lsu.edu
Office: 225.578.3153
Cell: 225.324.9470

EPA

Jonathan Pressman, Ph.D., P.E.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Water Supply & Water Resources Division
National Risk Management Research Laboratory
26 West Martin Luther King Drive (msG75)
Cincinnati, Ohio 45268
Phone: (513) 569-7625
Fax: (513) 487-2543
Pressman.jonathan@epa.gov

David G. Wahman, Ph.D., P.E.

Environmental Engineer
Treatment Technology Evaluation Branch
Water Supply & Water Resources Division
National Risk Management Research Laboratory U.S.
Environmental Protection Agency
26 West Martin Luther King Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45268
Phone: (513) 569-7733
Fax: (513) 487-2543
wahman.david@epa.gov

CAPTAIN Patrick Young (ATSDR/DCHI/CB)

U.S. Public Health Service
ATSDR Region 6
Division of Community Health Investigation
Region 6 - Co-located w/ EPA
1445 Ross Ave 6SF-T (8th Floor)
Dallas, TX 75202
Phone: 214-665-8562
Young.patrick@epa.gov

Other EPA individuals to be cc'd:

Atkins.Blake@epa.gov

John R. Battista, Ph.D.

Microbiologist
Mary Lou Applewhite Professor
BMB Division
PhD: Wayne State University, 1986
Phone: (225) 578-2810
Lab Phone: (225) 578-5226
E-mail: jbattis@lsu.edu
Office: 646 Life Sciences Building
Lab: 610/612/613 Life Sciences Building

LA Poison Control**Mark Ryan, PharmD**

Louisiana Poison Control
LSUHSC – Shreveport, Dept of Emergency Medicine, Section of
Clinical toxicology
1455 Wilkinson Street
Shreveport, LA 71130
1-800-222-1222
Mryan@lsuhsc.edu

DHH**Jimmy Guidry, M.D.**

State Health Officer
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
628 N 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Work: 225-342-0236
jguidry@la.gov

Jake Causey, P.E.

Chief Engineer
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
Office of Public Health
628 N 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Work: 225-342-7499
jake.causey@la.gov

Caryn Benjamin, P.E.

Deputy Chief Engineer
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
Office of Public Health
628 N 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Work: 225-342-7499
Caryn.benjamin@la.gov

Stephen J. Martin, Ph.D.

Director, Louisiana Office of Public Health Laboratories
3101 West Napoleon Avenue
Metairie Louisiana 70001
Office 504-219-4664
Fax 504-219-4670
Email stephen.martin@la.gov

TULANE**Luanne White, Ph.D., DBAT**

Toxicologist
Director for the Center of Applied Environmental Public Health
Interim Dean
Tulane University, School of Public Health
1440 Canal Street, PW43
New Orleans 70112
lawhite@tulane.edu
504-988-5394

Jacobs Engineering**Chad Seidel, Ph.D., P.E.**

Manager of Water Technology
707 17th Street, Suite 2400
Denver, CO 80202
Work: 303-820-4846
Chad.Seidel@jacobs.com

Chris Corwin, Ph.D., P.E.

Water Process Engineer
707 17th Street, Suite 2300
Denver, CO 80202
Work: 720-359-3072
Chris.Corwin@jacobs.com

Brian O'Reilly, P.E.

Senior Project Engineer
909 Poydras Street, Suite 2190
New Orleans, LA 70112
Work: 504-846-5509
Brian.O'reilly@jacobs.com

ARIZONA Water Systems**Cynthia Garcia**

City of Peoria Public Water System
8401 W Monroe Street
Peoria, AZ 85345
Phone: 623-773-8467
Cynthia.garcia@peoriaaz.gov

Daniel R. Quintanar

Project Manager
City of Tucson Public Water System
4401 S. Tucson Estates Parkway
Tucson, AZ 85735
Phone: 520-837-2465
Dan.quintanar@tucsonaz.gov

Raoult Ratard, M.D., MS, MPH

State Epidemiologist
Louisiana Office of Public Health
1450 Poydras Avenue, Ste 2159
New Orleans, LA 70112
Phone 504-458-5428,
Fax 504-568-9290
Main Office Phone 504-568-8313
raoult.ratard@la.gov

Other DHH individuals to be cc'd:

J.T. Lane – jtlane@la.gov
Beth Scalco – beth.scalco@la.gov
Takeisha Davis – Takeisha.davis@la.gov
Rosanne Prats – Rosanne.prats@la.gov
Doris Brown – Doris.brown@la.gov
Amanda Laughlin – amanda.laughlin@la.gov
Johan Forsman – johan.forsman@la.gov
Christina Stephens – Christina.stephens@la.gov
Olivia Watkins – Olivia.watkins@la.gov

Wrap-around/Note-takers, etc:

CCP: Jeanne.Haupt@la.gov
Keith.Phillips@la.gov; Eocwatch@la.gov
Web reports, etc: Charles.Backstrom@la.gov

Arizona DEQ**Chuck Graf**

Senior Hydrologist
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
1110 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Phone: 602-771-4661
cgg@azdeq.gov

University of Arizona**Charles Gerba, Ph.D.**

Professor, Microbiology & Environmental Sciences
Epidemiology and Biostatistics Division
CALS
Campus PO Box: 245210
Vet. Sciences/Microbiology 217
Tucson, AZ 85721
Phone: 520-621-6906
gerba@ag.arizona.edu

Kelly Bright

Associate Research Scientist
Department of Soil Water & Environmental Science
1177 E. 4th Street / PO Box 210038
Tucson, Arizona 85721-0038
Phone: 520-626-8094
bright@u.arizona.edu

Member Responsibilities:

The general responsibilities and expectations of workgroup members are as follows:

- Regularly attend meetings in person or via conference call or webinar
- Regularly contribute to discussions taking place
- Strive toward a consensus that realizes the best and most reasonable outcomes

Communication:

Utilize a sharepoint site hosted by Jacobs Engineering (other options?)

Frequency of Meetings:

It is anticipated that 4-6 meetings/conference calls will be held before the end of this calendar year. This working group effort is expected to last for 6 months to a year at most. A conference line will be established for those that face challenges with travel.